His Majesty's

MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECH

To both HOUSES of

PARLIAMENT,

On *Thursday* the Thirteenth Day of *November*, 1755.

LONDON:

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His MAJESTY's moſt gracious SPEECH to both HOUSES of Parliament, on *Thurſday* the Thirteenth Day of *November*, 1755.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

THE preſent critical Conjuncture of Affairs, and My conſtant Inclination to have the Advice and Aſſiſtance of My Parliament on all important Occaſions, have made Me deſirous to meet you here as early as poſſible.

Since your laſt Seſſion, I have taken ſuch Meaſures as might be moſt conducive to the Protection of Our Poſſeſſions in *America*, and to the Regaining of ſuch Parts thereof, as had been encroached upon, or invaded, in Violation of the Peace, and contrary to the Faith of the moſt ſolemn Treaties.

For this Purpoſe, the Maritime Force of this Kingdom has been got ready with the utmoſt Application and Expedition, and been principally employed; ſome Land Forces have been ſent from hence to *North America*; and all proper Encouragement has been given to the ſeveral Colonies there, to exert themſelves in their own Defence, and in the Maintenance of the Rights and Poſſeſſions of *Great Britain*.

With a ſincere Deſire to preſerve My People from the Calamities of War, as well as to prevent, in the midſt of theſe Troubles, a General War from being lighted up in *Europe*, I have been always ready to accept reaſonable and honourable Terms of Accommodation; but none ſuch have hitherto been propoſed on the Part of *France*. I have alſo confined My Views and Operations to hinder *France* from making new Encroachments, or ſupporting thoſe already made; to exert our Right to a Satisfaction for Hoſtilities committed in a Time of profound Peace; and to diſappoint ſuch Deſigns, as, from various Appearances and Preparations, there is Reaſon to think, have been formed againſt My Kingdoms and Dominions.

By theſe Methods, I have purſued the Plan, which I formerly pointed out to you, and for which I had the Satisfaction to receive the ſtrongeſt Aſſurances of your vigorous Support.

What other Power can object to Proceedings ſo abſolutely neceſſary to Our own Defence and Security? My Good Brother, the King of *Spain*, ſees with Concern theſe Differences; and the Part which He generouſly takes in the Common Welfare of *Europe*, makes Him earneſtly wiſh the Preſervation of the Publick Tranquility. He has alſo given Aſſurances, that He will continue in the ſame Pacifick Sentiments.

In purſuing theſe great Ends, I make no Doubt of the vigorous and chearful Support of My Parliament; and that, whilſt I am engaged in this Juſt and National Cauſe, the affectionate Aſſurances which they gave Me the laſt Seſſion, will be effectually made good. In Conſequence thereof I have greatly increaſed My Naval Armaments; augmented My Land Forces in ſuch a Manner as might be the leaſt burthenſome; and have concluded a Treaty with the Empreſs of *Ruſſia*, and another with the Landgrave of *Heſſe Caſſell*, which ſhall be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper Officers to lay before you Eſtimates for the Service of the enſuing Year, and likewiſe Accounts of the extraordinary Expences which have been made this Year, in Purſuance of the Power given Me by Parliament. I ſee, with great Concern, that the neceſſary Services before mentioned will require large Supplies. I ask only ſuch as ſhall be requiſite for the effectual carrying on of thoſe Meaſures, which ſhall be neceſſary to ſupport what has been begun, according to your Inclination, for the Security of My Kingdoms and Dominions, and for the Purpoſes which have been already mentioned to you. Whatever you grant, ſhall, with the ſtricteſt Oeconomy, be applied to thoſe Uſes only for which it ſhall be given.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I rely upon your Duty and good Affections, which I have ſo often experienced. There never was a Situation in which My Honour, and the Eſſential Intereſts of *Great Britain*, called more ſtrongly for your Zeal, Unanimity, and Diſpatch.

5 *F I N I S.*